

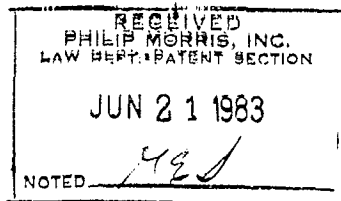
# Reddie & Grose

Chartered Patent Agents  
European Patent Attorneys  
16 Theobalds Road  
London WC1X 8PL

Patents Designs Trade Marks

## AIRMAIL

Philip Morris Inc.,  
Patent Counsel,  
PO Box 26583,  
Richmond,  
Virginia 23261,  
United States of America.



URGENT  
John W. Bailey  
David A. Pears M.A.  
John H. Bass B.Sc.  
P. Antony Smith M.A.  
F. A. B. Valentine M.A.  
Richard C. Abnett M.A.  
Paul A. Brereton M.A.  
Keith E. Geering B.A.

D. S. Jackson B.Sc.  
J. J. Day B.Sc.  
B. G. W. Lloyd M.A. D.Phil.  
Sarah Dixon B.A.

Consultant  
Michael Hesketh-Prichard

Telephone 01-242 0901  
Telex 25445 Reddie G  
Fax (Gp. 3/2) 01-242 3290  
Cables Reddie London WC1  
LDE No. 280

JHB/LS/25749

For the attention of Dr. G. Esler Inskeep

16th June 1983

Dear Les,

New European Patent Application  
Based on USSN 395,473  
Process for Increasing the Filling  
Power of Tobacco - Your ref: PM 1039  
Our file: 25749

This new case is due for filing in Europe before 6th July. I have been examining it from the point of view of European practice and I have some suggestions for amendment and for a claim appropriate for use in Europe.

It appears from my rather rapid initial reading of the specification that the OV value is kept constant by using a closed system (or perhaps by controlling the moisture in the atmosphere in an open system). The constancy of the SV value simply reflects the fact that this is a stiffening and not an expansion process. The lack of any expansion is essentially, as I understand it, a consequence of the temperature of treatment.

The expression "a time sufficient to increase CV value" would not be acceptable under European practice because it seems that any time would produce some increase in CV value. Also I note that it is  $CV_{eq}$  which is the value which is measured in the examples. The difference  $CV_{eq}$  may not be very important but perhaps we should for precision use  $CV_{eq}$  in the claims.

In the light of these comments I would suggest a claim for the European application reading as follows:

"A process for increasing the filling power of tobacco by heating the tobacco characterised in that the heating is effected at a temperature in the range from 80°C to 150°C under conditions such that the OV value of the tobacco remains substantially unchanged".

2026370623

There seems to be an error in the description of the Figures at the foot of page 6 and the head of page 7 of the specification. For consistency with the drawings as I have them I think page 6 line 33 should refer to Figure 5 not Figure 4 and page 7 line 2 should refer to Figure 4 not Figure 5. The two paragraphs should perhaps then be transposed to get them in the right order. A corresponding change from Figure 4 to Figure 5 would seem to be appropriate at page 11 line 22.

In view of the short time available before this case has to be filed and the fact that I shall be on holiday after 1st July I should be grateful for your early comments.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature, possibly 'ATJ', in dark ink.

2026370624